

## **UNAPPROVED**

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

**Members Present:** Lisa Beaulieu, William Dennen, Paul DiModica, Craig Duffy, Mark Fiorillo. Linda Teel and Ray Salvatore were absent.

**Administration Present:** Dr. Phil Thornton, Superintendent, Robert Mitchell, Assistant Superintendent, Atty. Stephen Adams

**Agenda Item #1:** Chairperson Convenes Meeting  
Chairwoman Beaulieu convened the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

**Agenda Item #2:** Pledge of Allegiance

**Agenda Item #3:** Approval of Agenda  
Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.

**Agenda Item #4:** Student Government  
Student Activities – the Adopt A Family program was a huge success in December! The Winter Ball will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Wright's Farm. There will be a blood drive held on February 10th at the high school.

**Agenda Item #5:** Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes – 1) Regular Meeting 12/11/14
- B. Approval of Minutes – 1) Executive Session 12/11/14
- C. Enrollment Report – 1/1/15
- D. School Police Report – 12/1/14
- E. Residency/Truancy Report – 1/1/15

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve the consent agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Duffy, approved 5-0.

**Agenda Item #6:** Superintendent's Report

- A. Sodexo Food Services – Healthy High School Challenge Award – Mark Tucker from Sodexo presented a check for \$500 to the high school for their part in this challenge. CHS finished 63<sup>rd</sup> in the competition of over 100 high schools that were competing against each other to see who could make the most better choices for lunch! Congratulations to the student body for making good choices at lunchtime!!
- B. Budget Focus in 2015-2016 – Dr. Thornton gave some highlights of what will be in the budget – Chromebooks for elementary and high school, revive the television studio – CHS will have a television station, computer science pathway – cyber security, K-8 will be getting more titles in the students hands – they will have thousands to choose from and they can get them from home!
- C. 2015 Eat Healthy Rhode Island – March 11, 2015 – Mark Tucker from Sodexo said that this is an initiative to get all schools in Rhode Island to serve the most healthy meals to the students on March 11<sup>th</sup> – trying to educate kids on what to eat – healthy choices – from nursery school to the 12<sup>th</sup> grade!

**Agenda Item #7:** Chairperson's Report

- A. Funding Formula and the BEP – Mrs. Beaulieu noted that the General Assembly would be meeting in January to discuss the funding.

**Agenda Item #8:** Reports of Standing Committees

- A. Payment of Bills – Mr. DiModica made a motion to pay invoices in the amount of \$1,455,937.55, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.
- B. Fiscal Management Sub-Committee Update – Mr. DiModica stated that the committee met on 12/18 and discussed chromebooks purchase, security cameras, legal services payment and on 1/6/15 they met and discussed the contract for the Communications Coordinator, and the contract for the Interim Director of Special Education.
- C. Policy and Procedures Sub-Committee Update – Mr. Fiorillo said the committee met on 1/6/15 and discussed I-12, J-21, talked about a gift policy for administration and faculty, and a new policy for amending and passing the budget in one night.
- D. Achievement and Communications Sub-Committee Update – Mrs. Beaulieu said the committee did not meet but will be meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Agenda Item #9:** Public Hearing

- A. Reading of Policies: 1) Amended Policies: a) I-12 K-8 Proficiency Based Grading and b) J-21 (G10) FERPA Policy for Students Who Have Reached the Age of Majority – Mr. Fiorillo asked that I-12 and J-21 be read into the record. Mr. Mitchell stated that the K-8 change was a teacher requirement to load formative assessments into Aspen and since students grades do not include formative assessments they took out five or six words out of the policy and these assessments will not be loaded into Aspen – the summative assessments will be on Aspen. J-21 is to protect the rights of the students once they reach the age of majority.
- B. Public Comment – Mrs. Beaulieu asked if anyone wanted to speak about the policies and no one did. She closed the public hearing.

**Agenda Item #10:** Comments from the Public

There were no comments at this time.

**Agenda Item #11:** New Business

- A. Camp Invention Presentation – Ms. Bernardo from BFN was at the meeting to give the SC an overview of a STEM summer camp provider. It is a non-profit, highly qualified science camp that would be staffed by our own teachers. She showed a brief you tube clip of a similar camp. Ms. Bernardo said the camp would be located at BFN during the week of 6/22/15, she reviewed pricing, dates, times, scholarship information, grant funding, staff, program overview. She said the middle school camp would be at NCMS. Mr. DiModica asked if there were a lot more kids interested in the camps, would there be more camps? Ms. Bernardo said yes there would be more camps – it is open to the Cumberland School District. Ms. Bernardo also brought two of her students with her to show what some of the robots that have been constructed with the “Cubelets” look like. This would be something that some of the students may be doing at these summer camps. Ms. Bernardo received a grant to purchase two kits which will be enough for all of the fifth graders at her school. The robots were pretty interesting and the students were very eager and excited to share their creations with everyone in attendance. Mr. Mitchell thanked Ms. Bernardo for all of her hard work for the district.

- B. Healthy Youth Initiative Mini Grant Presentation – Carolyn Dooley gave a quick overview of what will happen with the \$4,500 grant that was awarded to us. She stated that this grant will focus on grade 9 health, teaching specific units will begin in March and the units will be taught with magazines, guest speakers, posters, birth control method kits, there will be games played – lots of learning in some simulated fashion, but teaching the students what they need to know and how to protect themselves in various situations. Ms. Dooley will be back to the SC in the springtime to let everyone know how it all went.
- C. Discussion of 2015-2016 School Calendar – Dr. Thornton reviewed the calendar and noted that February has one more professional development day for faculty and staff, PARCC testing window may move but April vacation will probably stay where it is. Mr. DiModica asked if we needed four weeks for PARCC testing and Dr. Thornton said yes especially the first year because there will be a learning curve. Mr. Duffy asked about the possibility of moving one professional day to May and Dr. Thornton said to put that on the next agenda for discussion.
- D. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-PR-12-2014-22: Chromebooks and Carts – Elementary Schools – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve SC-PR-12-2014-22 in the amount not to exceed \$54,347.50 for 170 chromebooks and 5 chrome carts for the five elementary schools, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen and Mr. Fiorillo, approved 5-0. This is budgeted.
- E. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-PR-12-2014-23: Buildings Security Cameras for District – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve SC-PR-12-2014-23 in the amount not to exceed \$22,274 for security cameras and accessories for all eight schools, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0. This is a budgeted item.
- F. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2015-01: FY 2014-15 Budget Amendment: Budget Transfers – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve SC-R-2015-01 – to amend the 2014-15 budget of \$59,097,933, - budget transfer of \$32,757 from Out of District Trans. to HS Technology Equipment (Chromebooks), 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Fiorillo, approved 5-0. At this point Mrs. Beaulieu asked that SC-PR-12-2014-22 and SC-PR-12-2014-23 be read into the record.
- G. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-PR-1-2015-01: Chromebooks for CHS Faculty – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve SC-PR-1-2015-01 in the amount not to exceed \$32,757 to purchase 92 Chromebooks and 152 Chromebook cases for the high school teachers, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Duffy, approved 5-0.
- H. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Resolution SC-R-2015-02: Interim Director of Special Education Contract – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve SC-R-2015-02, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Fiorillo, approved 5-0.
- I. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Contract for Communications Coordinator – Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve the contract for Communications Coordinator, the amendment was to increase the amount of time, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Fiorillo, approved 5-0.
- J. Discussion and/or Vote to Approve Amended Policies: 1) I-12 K-8 Proficiency Based Grading - Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve I-12 K-8 Proficiency Based Grading, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 4-1, Mr. Duffy in the negative. 2) J-21 (G-10) FERPA Policy for Students Who Have Reached the Age of Majority – Mr. Fiorillo explained that this policy is now in the student section instead of the personnel section. Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve J-21, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.

**Agenda Item #12:** Personnel Recommendations

Mrs. Fogell requested the following personnel recommendations:

**Amended – 1/7/15**

**Retirement**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of **Kathleen DelSesto, Secondary Mathematics Teacher at Cumberland High School**, effective December 19, 2014.

Mr. DiModica made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Duffy, approved 5-0.

**Resignation**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Tina LeMay, Elementary Teacher at Garvin Memorial Elementary School**, effective January 1, 2015.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the resignation of **Alysha Castonguay, Winter Cheerleading Coach for the Cumberland School Department**, effective January 16, 2015.

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve the resignation of Tina LeMay and Alysha Castonguay, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. DiModica, approved 5-0.

**Appointments**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Kelli McPherson, Teacher Assistant at BF Norton Elementary School**, effective January 5, 2015. **(FTE: 1.0; Step n/a; Lane: n/a; Co-pay: 11%; budgeted).**

Mr. DiModica and Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Erin Flanagan, Head Cheerleading Coach for the Cumberland School Department**, effective January 5, 2015.

Mr. Dennen made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Duffy, approved 5-0.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of **Melissa Custer, Special Education Coordinator – Elementary Level for the Cumberland School Department**, effective January 12, 2015. **(FTE: 1.0; Step 9; Lane: N/A; Co-pay: 22%; Stipend: \$7,000; budgeted).**

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Duffy, approved 5-0.

**Leave of Absence**

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the FMLA leave of absence of **Lisa Colwell, Director of Special Education for the Cumberland School Department** from January 6, 2015 through approximately February 27, 2015.

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.

**Agenda Item #13:** School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mr. DiModica reminded everyone about the PTO meeting at McCourt Middle School on January 14<sup>th</sup> – he said one of the items to be discussed – parking situation – was a hot topic! Mr. Duffy commented on how wonderful the Clef Singers were at Mayor Murray's

inauguration – also the Lusitana Club Marching Band was great too! Mr. Fiorillo commented about the Clef Singers as well and said that Janita Ducharme and her singers should receive a lot of praise for a wonderful performance! Mrs. Beaulieu commented that the communications coordinator did a great job on the “B” Book!

**Agenda Item #14:** Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5

Dr. Thornton stated that there was no Executive Session this evening.

**Agenda Item #15:** Adjournment

Mr. Fiorillo made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Dennen, approved 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony.